(c) It is not practicable to state the *total* income from rural post because assessment of income is d out only in respect of cxtra- tces and that also once in three years. Departmental post lined on a peri' basis in rural areas are not subject to periodical assessment of income is it practicable to. state with any degree q£ accuracy what the total diture on rural postal n -is because apart from the pay ind i to employees posted in rural areas and other direct expenses such as rents, there are supervisory overheads at various levels which cannot be conveniently apportioned as between 'Urban' and 'rural'.

Statement

1. Percentage of Plan funds sPent on rural postal services ("Opening of new post offices in rural areas")

1985-86	0.0s
1986-87	0.09

2. Percentage of estimated Plan expenditure on rural postal services ("Opening of new post offices in rural areas")

1987-88	1.43
1988-89	6.8

Speedy Post Service to Eolpur Shantiniketan

1896. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased tq state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect Bolpur Shantiniketan with a speedy post service; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply abqve. The Principal requirement for the introduction of ttii$_s$ service is the availability of air service with suitable arrival/departure timings vis-avis despatch and receipt of mail. The proposed service from Bolpur, Shanti-niketan does not fulfil this requirement.

Prices of Vitamin A and Vitamin C

1897. SHRIMATI SATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be^ pleased to refer to the answer to Juestion 68i given in the Rajya gabha on the 29th February, 1988 and state:

(a) whether t that the producers of Vitamin A and Vitamin C have increased their prices;

(b) if so$_i$ whether' the producers have provided the break-up as required under DPCO, 1987 before increasing th$_e$ Prices; and

(c) if so, what are the names of the companies which submitted the break-up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGAL *RAD}:* (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The names of the companies who submitted the break-up are:

1. Vitamin A

   M/s. Roche Products Ltd. M/s. Kerala stat$_e$ Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

2. Vitamin C

   M/s. Ambalal Sarabhai Enterprises,

Push-button Telephones to MP$_S$

1898. SHRI SURA J PRASAD: Will th$_e$ Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether push-button telephone instruments have been provided to th$_e$ Members of Parliament and other VIPs;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof.

(c) whether telephone instruments of ex-MPs in Delhi will also be replaced by push-button telephones; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The number of push-button tele phone instruments provided to Mem bers of Parliament and other VIPs are:

(i) Members of Parliament : 559

(ii) Other V.I.Ps. : 139

(c) and (d) Push button telephones are being provided to subscribers in Delhi, including - ex-MPs, on request on payment of a one time charge °* Rs, 500/- for replacement of the isting telephone instrument, subject to availability of such instruments.

Forms 4 and 6 received under DPCO

1899. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased tQ refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 720 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th February, 1988 and state the total number of Forms 4 and 6 received by his Ministry under DPCO, 1987 along with the names ofthe companies during the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRi J. VENGAL RAO): To the extent information is available, names of the companies who have submitted the details in Form 4 are given below:

Sr. No.	Name of the Companay
1	M/s. May & Baker, Bombay.
2	M/s. Decruz Corporation , Bombay.
3	M/s. S.G. Pharmaceuticals, Baroda.
4	M/s. Dey's Medical Store, Calcutta.
5	M/s. John Wyeth (India) Ltd. Bombay.
6	M/s. Merck (India) Ltd., Bombay.
7	M/s. Duphar Interfran Ltd., Bombay.
8	M/s. Sarabhai Chemicals, Baroda.
9	M/s. German Remedies, Bombay.
10	M/s. Boehringer Knoll Ltd., Bombay.
11	M/s. Bayer (I) Ltd., Bombay.
12	M/s. Roche Products Ltd., Bombay.

Availability of Essentia] Drugs

1900. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether the position with regard to the availability of life saving and other essential medicines in the local market has changed after the New Drugs (Price Control) Order was issued recently; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a), and (b) Availability position of several vital drugs like Tetanus Anti-toxin, Anti-Snake Venom Serum, Streptomycin, Penicillins and many Anti-cancer drugs, has improved after the issue of New Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987. However, shortages of some im-